2020 HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 AND THE LIBRARY@HOME

Public health orders issued due to the COVID-19 pandemic, necessitated that the Pueblo City-County Library District’s buildings closed to the public on March 13. The library quickly pivoted its services to the community with increased e-resources, development of livestream programming, curbside holds pickup and the take-home craft program Kits2Go.

The webpage “Library @ Home” was created as a hub for access to e-resources, virtual programming, at-home learning resources and more.

Patrons were able to easily access e-books, digital magazines, downloadable audiobooks, streaming movies, music, television shows and online research and learning tools.

Along with the creation of a virtual library, the need to address internet access issues throughout Pueblo County was quickly brought to light. To mitigate the impact of the pandemic while providing digital equity, more than 1,000 internet hotspots, 350 chrome books, and 100 tablets were purchased. These devices enabled the community to connect to needed services, library programming, resources, and materials.

In addition to e-resources, the district purchased hardware and software to aid with livestreaming PCCLD programs that normally would have been held in person. Chief among these were the purchase of eight Padcasters, an all-in-one video recording system as well as the livestreaming software StreamYard. Each of the branches within the district have their own Padcaster and accompanying Facebook and YouTube pages with which to livestream all programs.

As with most activities in 2020, the district adapted its annual literacy project All Pueblo Reads to fit within the parameters of the public health guidelines. Library staff focused on developing online learning modules for students from elementary school through adult, and paired learning opportunities with virtual author visits, as well as library and community programming. In November, author Tim O’Brien gave author talks about his book *The Things They Carried*. As a result of the transition to a digital format, this year’s All Pueblo Reads garnered the most attendance in the history of the annual literacy project.

* Program attendance includes reported virtual attendance during “live” virtual presentations.

** Due to COVID-19 precautions PCCLD buildings were fully closed March 14 - May 3 then partially reopening for curbside service only May 4. Buildings opened for limited computer use starting June 18, and limited browsing starting June 26. Buildings again closed to the public starting on Nov. 18 until the end of the year; curbside service remains active.
2020 HIGHLIGHTS

DISTRICT AWARDED FIVE-STAR STATUS

Pueblo City-County Library District earned the distinction of Five Star Library status for 2020 by the Library Journal. This is the first time the district has been awarded the top status during the five consecutive years of being named a Star Library.

The Library Journal Index of Public Library Service was created to recognize and promote excellent public libraries in America. A total of 5,608 U.S. public libraries qualified to be rated in the index, 262 of which were named Star Libraries. PCCLD is one of only 85 libraries to be awarded Five Star Status.

Each library is rated across seven per capita measures: circulation, items checked out electronically, visits, program attendance, public computer users, Wi-Fi sessions and database usage. PCCLD rated highest in program attendance and Wi-Fi usage.

PCCLD is placed in a nation-wide category of libraries that have an annual budget ranging from $10 to $29.9 million.

BUILDING DIGITAL EQUITY

Thanks to a generous grant, nearly 300 school kids throughout Pueblo County received Google Chromebooks. Pueblo City-County Library District was awarded a grant from the Sperry S. and Ella Graber Packard Fund for Colorado to purchase the devices and other materials. Selection of the students was made by community partners: the Boys & Girls Club of Pueblo County; Tammy Prutch, CASA; Middle row, from left: Dr. Velia Rincon, Advisory board, Sperry S. and Ella Graber Packard Fund for Pueblo; Angela Giran, Boys and Girls Club of Pueblo County; Melanie Bravo, Program Director, Sperry S. and Ella Graber Packard Fund for Pueblo. Back row, from left: Jon Walker, PCCLD; Nick Potter, PCCLD and Bree Pappan, PCCLD.

According to the website BroadbandNow.com, Pueblo County is currently the 60th most connected city in Colorado while being the 10th most populated county in the state. Approximately 2,000 households in Pueblo County do not have access to wired internet and approximately 11,000 households do not have access to 25 Mbps wired broadband.
2020 HIGHLIGHTS

2020 ALL PUEBLO READS

The 2020 NEA Big Read All Pueblo Reads literacy project was unlike any other. This year’s selection was Pulitzer Prize finalist novel, The Things They Carried by Tim O’Brien. For younger readers, the companion book was What Was the Vietnam War by Jim O’Connor.

Due to the pandemic precautions, the month-long literacy program was nearly an all virtual affair. This also included the annual Booklovers Ball. This year’s Pueblo Library Foundation fundraiser raised more than $20,000 and was supported by 21 generous sponsors. In lieu of an in-person gala, ticket buyers were able to have a ball at home with a Booklovers Ball in a Box as well as have exclusive online access to Tim O’Brien.

Both events featuring the APR authors were livestreamed on the district’s Facebook and YouTube pages. Both authors spoke to students in Pueblo School District 60 and Pueblo County School District 70. O’Brien wrapped up All Pueblo Reads with a livestreamed public author talk on November 6.

The October 2nd kickoff was the only in-person event. It was held in the Rawlings Library parking lot and featured a live concert by local band The Blue Pepper Trio and a drive-in movie, co-sponsored by the Pueblo Parks and Recreation Department.

Nearly 120 programs were scheduled for the month-long literacy project. Among the featured programs were: Kathryn Clark Childers, a Pueblo native and one of the first women to serve in the Secret Service, a veteran food distribution that aided nearly 800 veterans and their families from throughout the southeastern Colorado area and a Vietnamese language storytime.

NEA Big Read All Pueblo Reads author Tim O’Brien delivered his Booklovers Ball presentation from his home in Austin, Texas.

Nearly 800 veterans and their families from throughout southeastern Colorado were aided during the Veterans Food Distribution sponsored by The Center for American Values and hosted by PCCLD.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Renovations to the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library began in August. The $12.5 million project involves significant interior work to the four floors including refreshing furniture, flooring and fixtures; replacement of the building’s HVAC systems and equipment, and creation of an terraced outdoor amphitheater and mobility plaza.

The 110,000 square-foot main library has hosted more than 8 million visitors since opening its doors and more than 14 million books and other materials have been checked out since opening in 2003.

Starting in August of 2021, the Rawlings Library will undergo a fundamental renovation to provide library services that meet community needs now and into the future. A few of the improvements that will take place include an expanded youth services area, creation of a mobility plaza to create better access to the building, and an increased fourth floor event space.

Architectural rendering of the renovated entrance to Rawlings Library
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

MAY 2020 TO APRIL 2021 – OUR 61ST YEAR

The mission of the Friends of Pueblo City-County Library District is “to help the library system make educational, informational, cultural and recreational services available to the public.” In fulfillment of this mission the Friends present the following accomplishments for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Friends had a direct, positive impact on many Pueblo County youth in the following ways:

• Judged 636 entries in the 28th Annual Scary Story Contest. The winners received a booklet of the winning stories, a certificate of recognition and a gift certificate to Books Again.
• Sponsored the Friends of the Library Youth Creative Writing Contest with 39 entries.
• Sponsored the Create Your Own Dr. Seuss Character Contest by providing Books Again gift certificates to the winners. Winners also received a booklet of the winning entries. There were 578 figments of students’ imaginations received!
• Judged the 24th Annual Poetry Contest and awarded winners with Books Again gift certificates, a booklet of the winning entries and a certificate of achievement. There were 136 entries.
• Judged the Up with Reading Bookmark Contest and awarded the winners with Books Again gift certificates, 20 copies of their bookmark and a certificate of achievement.

INFORMATIONAL AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

• The Project Selection Committee of the Friends awarded funds that totaled $10,505.37 to fulfill 14 grant requests from library employees.
• Provided $1,200 towards the printing and postage of News & Events. The newsletter is an important communications tool for informing the community of library programs, new services and Friends’ activities. The newsletter reached more than 20,000 people and organizations last year.
• Eileen Arnot was selected as Friend of the Year.
• Awarded $5,000 in scholarships to library district employees seeking a Masters of Library Science.

Special Collections Manager Aaron Ramierz and Digitization Specialist Blake Hatton host a cooking demonstration during a livestream program.
HOW THE LIBRARY IS FUNDED

LOCAL PROPERTY TAX $10,825,853
Taxpayers of Pueblo City & County support a mill levy of 5.85

SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAX $948,421
Specific ownership tax, which is the licensing tax on vehicles, boats, etc.

CHARGES FOR SERVICES, SALES, FINES & INTEREST $79,341
Fines charged for overdue materials, photocopy charges, meeting room rental fees, sales of flash drives, ear buds, book bags, etc. and interest earnings on investments.

OPERATING CONTRACTS, GIFTS $992,552
E-rate reimbursement is nearly half of this revenue, also considered federal funding. Rent received from Friends for the book store, as well as miscellaneous grants and gifts, including significant contributions from the Friends of the Library, are also included in this line.

TOTAL REVENUE $12,846,167

HOW THE LIBRARY DISTRIBUTES FUNDING

PERSONNEL: SALARIES & BENEFITS $5,658,524
Wages, insurance, PERA, training, and employment-related expenses (unemployment insurance, workers compensation, recruitment expense, employee recognition).

MATERIALS & PROGRAMS: BOOKS, AV, SUBSCRIPTIONS, etc $2,000,623
Books, CDs, DVDs, electronic databases, periodicals, subscriptions, processing costs and programs for the public.

FACILITIES: UTILITIES, LEASES & MAINTENANCE $991,757
Everything to maintain the facilities—utilities, custodial service, building repair and maintenance, lease of space, insurance and vehicle maintenance.

DEBT SERVICE: PAYMENT ON BUILDINGS $151,663
Semi-annual payment of principal and interest for the COP financing for three new libraries and refinace of Pueblo West Library.

OPERATIONS: CONTRACTS, ADMINISTRATION, etc. $665,507
General operating expenses such as library and office supplies, professional memberships, contracts, county treasurer’s fees, postage, couriers and photocopier expense.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: COMPUTERS, etc. $399,893
All technology expenses are reflected here—costs to maintain the Integrated Library System (catalog), telecommunications costs including Internet access, supplies and maintenance contracts to keep everything updated and functional.

TOTAL EXPENDITURES $9,867,967

EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES $2,978,200
TRANSFER TO CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND ($1,489,000)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE $1,489,200

Jill Kleven, director of User Services prepares internet hotspots for circulation. The district purchased more than 1,000 hotspots in 2020 alone.
**SUMMARY OF NET POSITION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and investments</td>
<td>$5,081,697</td>
<td>$14,371,223</td>
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<tr>
<td>Property tax and other receivables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses and other assets</td>
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<td>Capital assets, less depreciation</td>
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<td><strong>$47,502,194</strong></td>
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<td>Deferred outflows</td>
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<td>Accounts payable</td>
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<td>Accrued liabilities</td>
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<td>Compensated absences</td>
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<td>Certificates of participation</td>
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<td>Net pension liability</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net OPEB Liability</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
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<td>Deferred revenue: property tax</td>
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<td>other deferred inflows</td>
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<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$23,627,829</strong></td>
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<td>Net investment in capital assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted</td>
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<td>Unrestricted</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NET POSITION</strong></td>
<td><strong>$21,093,484</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,627,829</strong></td>
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**GENERAL FUND 10-YEAR HISTORY**

**REVENUES**

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<th>Year</th>
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<td>11,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>12,000,000</td>
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**EXPENDITURES**

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<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>2012</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>12,000,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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**CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND**

**REVENUES**

**INTEREST INCOME**

$17,349

Earnings on investments — ColoTrust investments for the Library Replacement Plan, InfoZone and debt service reserve.

**GIFTS AND DONATIONS**

$407,500

Donations received from miscellaneous donors, including Friends of the Library and the Rawlings Foundation.

**TOTAL REVENUE**

$424,849

**EXPENDITURES**

**INFOZONE EXPENDITURES**

$26,355

This line item reflects expenditure of grant funds from the Rawlings Foundation to update the News Museum located on the 4th floor of the Rawlings Library.

**FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT**

$51,365

Capital assets worth over $5,000, such as shelving, custom-built computer tables, copy machines, vehicles, etc.

**BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS**

$301,378

Additions or improvements to the buildings.

**DEBT SERVICE**

$222,665

Issuance costs and fiscal charges.

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES**

$633,194

**DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE UNDER EXPENDITURES**

$(208,345)

**OTHER FINANCING SOURCES**

**INSURANCE PROCEEDS**

$1,000

**SALE OF CAPITAL ASSETS**

$5,000

**CERTIFICATES OF PARTICIPATION**

$15,803,669

**ESCROW PAYMENT**

$(8,903,060)

**TRANSFERS IN FROM GENERAL FUND**

$1,489,000

**TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES**

$8,395,609

**NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE**

$8,187,264
ANNUAL REPORT

2020

PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT

VISION
Books & Beyond

MISSION
We serve as a foundation for our community by offering welcoming, well equipped and maintained facilities, outstanding collections, and well-trained employees who provide expert service encouraging the joy of reading, supporting lifelong learning and presenting access to information from around the world.

MOTTO
Ideas, Imagination & Information

LOCATIONS

BARKMAN LIBRARY | 1300 Jerry Murphy Rd., Pueblo
GIODONE LIBRARY | 24655 U.S. Hwy 50 E., Pueblo
GREENHORN VALLEY LIBRARY | 4801 Cibola Dr., Colorado City
LAMB LIBRARY | 2525 S. Pueblo Blvd., Pueblo
LIBRARY @ THE Y | 3200 Spaulding Ave., Pueblo
LUCERO LIBRARY | 1315 E. 7th St., Pueblo
PUEBLO WEST LIBRARY | 298 S. Joe Martinez Blvd., Pueblo West
RAWLINGS LIBRARY | 100 E. Abriendo Ave., Pueblo
AVONDALE ELEMENTARY | 213 Hwy. 50 E., Avondale
BEULAH SCHOOL | 8734 Schoolhouse Ln., Beulah
LIBRARY @ THE U | CSU-Pueblo, 2200 Bonforte Blvd., Pueblo
PCCLD at Pueblo Community College | Ste. 110, Pueblo

CONTACT
(719) 562-5600 | www.pueblolibrary.org

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